

SITUATION REPORT NO. 36
INCIDENT NO. 99-009
DATE: October 7, 1999 TIME: 12:00 a.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Storms and flooding – Above normal soil moisture content throughout North Dakota, compounded by seven years of flooding and additional precipitation, has resulted in overland, river and flash flooding and ground movement (landslides and mudslides). Excessive high winds associated with storm and tornado activity have contributed to ongoing problems faced by North Dakotans.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: On October 6, Devils Lake measured 1446.62 feet at Creel Bay. The National Weather Service (NWS) issued a flood statement on September 30 that indicated the lake would remain between 1,446.5 and 1,447 feet for the remainder of the year. The forecast is based on normal precipitation and evaporation rates through December 31. Earlier forecasts had called for the lake to rise slowly but remain below 1447.5 for the remainder of 1999. However, precipitation for the Devils Lake Basin has been below normal for the last two weeks of September. The magnitude of the rise in Devils Lake for the year 2000 will be determined by soil moisture, frost, the amount of winter and spring evaporation, temperature and evaporations, summer rainfall and the amount of overflow that occurs from Devils Lake into the Stump Lake drainage.
4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Notice has been received from FEMA officials that our request for a cost share adjustment for the 99 flood, based on the magnitude of the event has been granted. Therefore, the public assistance cost share for ND 1279 DR will be adjusted from 75/25 to 90/10. This means that the local share for infrastructure repairs will be reduced from 15% to 5%. The state share will also be 5%. This will represent a significant reduction in dollars that counties, cities and townships will be required to contribute toward this year's disaster

recovery.

Staff from N.D. Division of Emergency Management and FEMA will be working together with local applicants over the next several weeks to facilitate this initiative.

Governor Schafer has received word from the White House that the United States Army Corps of Engineers will use its emergency authority to immediately begin design and engineering work on an outlet for Devils Lake. Route of the outlet will be determined within this design and engineering effort. The goal for construction to begin is October 2000.

Federally mandated conditions, that have delayed this effort previously, such as compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, cost effectiveness of the outlet, and consultation with Canada must still be met.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: Assistance has been provided, as reported.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: FEMA, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Red Cross, consulting engineers and members of the N.D. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD).
9. OTHER: Situation Reports published by the N.D. Division of Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet Home page. The address is: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director